

PRELIMINARY DESKTOP ASSESSMENT HISTORIC CULTURAL HERITAGE

PROPOSED PIPELINE AND DAM IMPOUNDMENT (Curries River Reservoir to Pipers River)

FINAL REPORT



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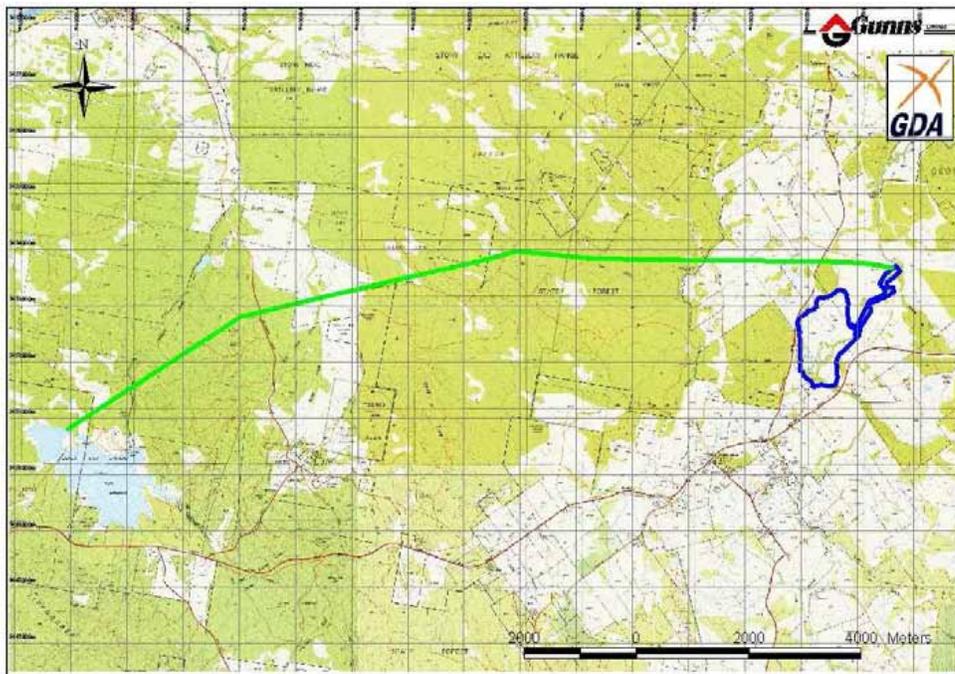
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1.0 BACKGROUND

As a part of its commercial operations, Gunns Limited is investigating the possibility of constructing a new pulp mill facility in the East Tamar Region of Tasmania. Additional infrastructure required for this development may include an additional dam impoundment and pipeline connecting the new dam to Curries River reservoir. This desktop assessment of historic cultural heritage sites has accordingly been commissioned in order to establish if any historic sites of any significance might potentially occur in the vicinity of the pipeline alignment and dam site.

2.0 LOCATION AND EXTENT OF SURVEY AREA

The proposed development occurs in the vicinity of Lefroy Township in Northern Tasmania. More specifically the proposed pipeline will commence at the Curries River Reservoir and proceed in a north easterly direction for approximately 14.5 kilometres before terminating at a new dam site situated 1.5 kilometres north east of Pipers River settlement.



3.0 METHODOLOGY

This desktop assessment consisted of the collection of all known historic site locations from various land management agency sources and their subsequent comparison to the proposed development. This report summarises the results of this process in addition to providing information on potential site locations and the manner of any field work arising from this preliminary assessment.

4.0 SUMMARY OF SOURCES CONSULTED

The following site based sources were consulted in order to identify potentially significant sites within the vicinity of the proposed development.

Source	Data base	Site numbers
Cultural Heritage Section	THPI register	-
State Heritage Council	State Heritage Register	-
Heritage Commission	N National Estate Register	-
Mineral Resources Tasmania	MIRLOC	10
Forestry Tasmania	GIS (historic sites layer)	-

5.0 SUMMARY OF KNOWN HISTORIC SITES

The following 10 historic sites listed by the MIRLOC data base operated by MRT (Mineral Resources Tasmania) occur within 500 metres of the pipeline centre point and the dam fill line. Maps appearing overleaf show the locations of these sites in addition to all other known sites situated beyond the impact area.

No.	Site name	Site type	Source	Heritage listing
1	Recruit	Mine	MIRLOC	No
2	Perseverance	Mine	MIRLOC	No
3	Great West Extended	Mine	MIRLOC	No
4	Old Comrades	Mine	MIRLOC	No
5	Golden Zone	Mine	MIRLOC	No
6	Unnamed	Mine	MIRLOC	No
7	Kennett & Hackett	Mine	MIRLOC	No
8	Unnamed	Mine	MIRLOC	No
9	West Major	Mine	MIRLOC	No
10	Unnamed	Mine	MIRLOC	No

6.0 SUMMARY OF HISTORIC ACTIVITIES

The following historic activities are known to have occurred in the vicinity of the proposed development.

6.1 Mining

The proposed pipeline route crosses one of the state's major historic gold mining localities centred on the township of Lefroy. Gold was originally discovered here in 1869 by S. Richards, who was granted a 2000 pound reward for his efforts. A township called Nine Mile Springs mushroomed around the earliest workings and the settlement duly boasted three stores, two bakeries, three hotels as well as government infrastructure such as a police station. However, as rich workings such as Golden Point and New Native Youth mines were discovered further away, a new rival township evolved which was eventually named Lefroy in 1880 after the Governor of the day. Mining in the area peaked variously between 1875 -1877, 1886 -1890 and 1891 – 1895. Up to forty claims were worked in the final pre-1900 period before activity at the field declined. By 1905 almost all claims had been abandoned although small leases have been taken up to the present day. Between 1869 and 1900 the Lefroy field yielded 700,000 pounds worth of gold from 172 various registered workings.

A small number of slate mines were also established in the Lefroy area during that industry's peak period between 1873 and 1888, before iron roofing became increasingly cheaper and available.

6.2 Forestry

Early timber felling associated with the gold rush at Nine Mile Springs saw the first timber harvesting in the area for mine and construction timber. After the cessation of mining in the early 1900s, renewed harvesting of regrowth occurred in the 1920s until the post war period. The post war history of timber getting has been dominated by the absorption of former mineral leases into state owned forest lands by the Forestry Department and its successor, the Forestry Commission.

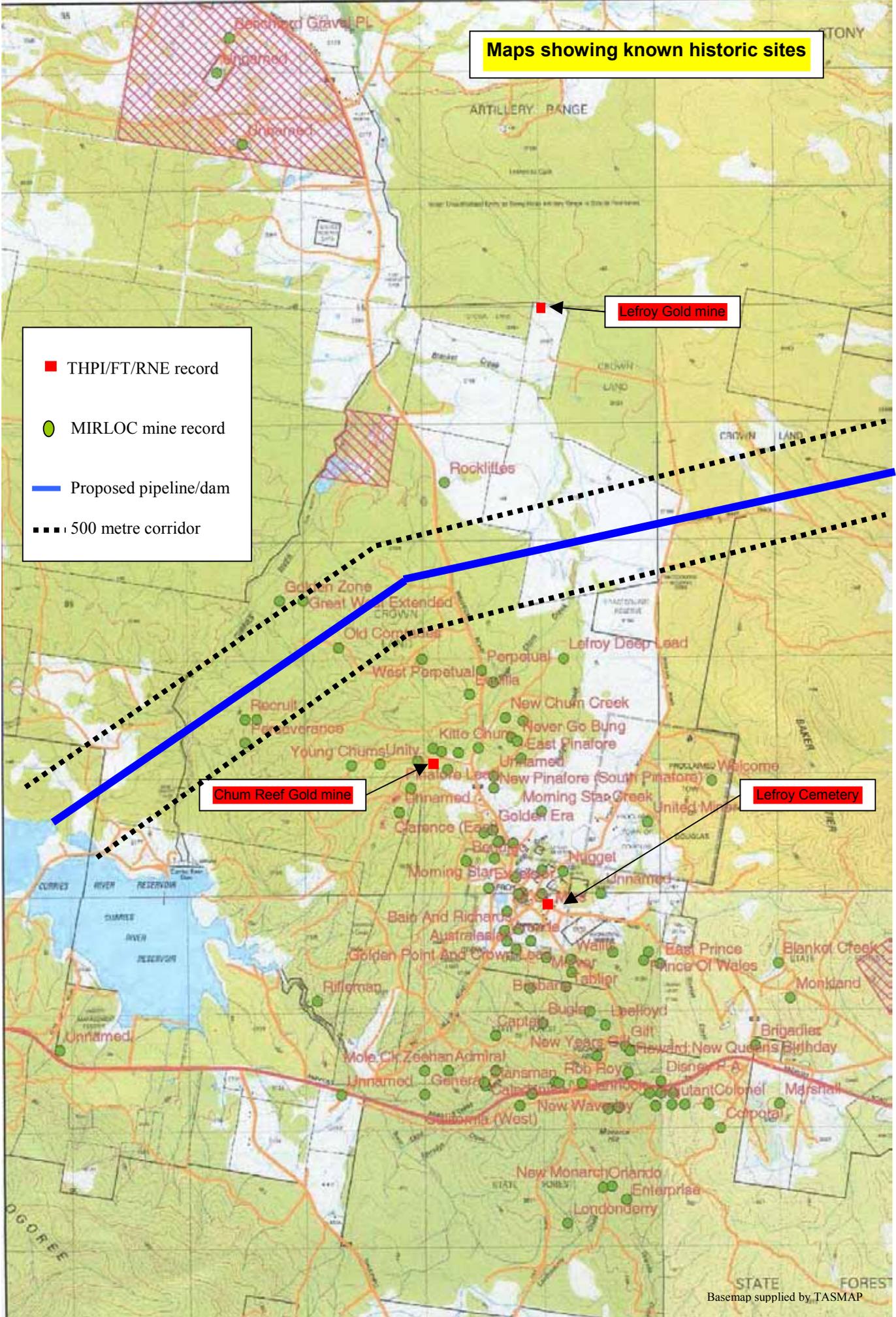
6.3 Pastoralism

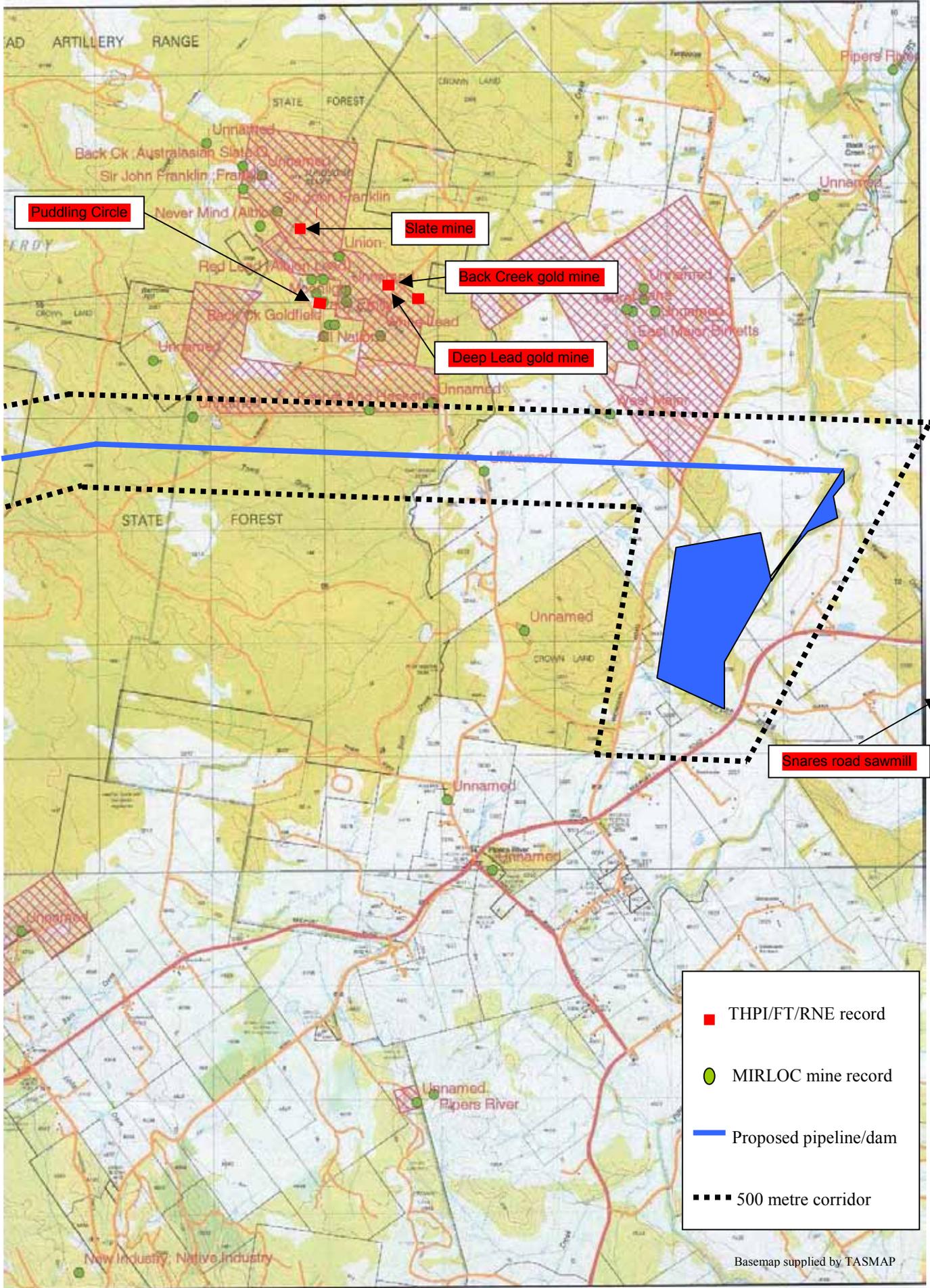
After gold mining activities declined in the first years of the 20th century, abandoned mineral leases were gradually coalesced into pastoral freehold titles and acquired by pastoral interests. The more productive acreages not re-acquired for subsequent mineral exploration were periodically stocked and grazed until their incorporation into the State forest system. A

small number of valuable allotments have been retained as pastoral leases despite the conversion of surrounding lands to State forest status.

Maps showing known historic sites

- THPI/FT/RNE record
- MIRLOC mine record
- Proposed pipeline/dam
- - - 500 metre corridor





Puddling Circle

Slate mine

Back Creek gold mine

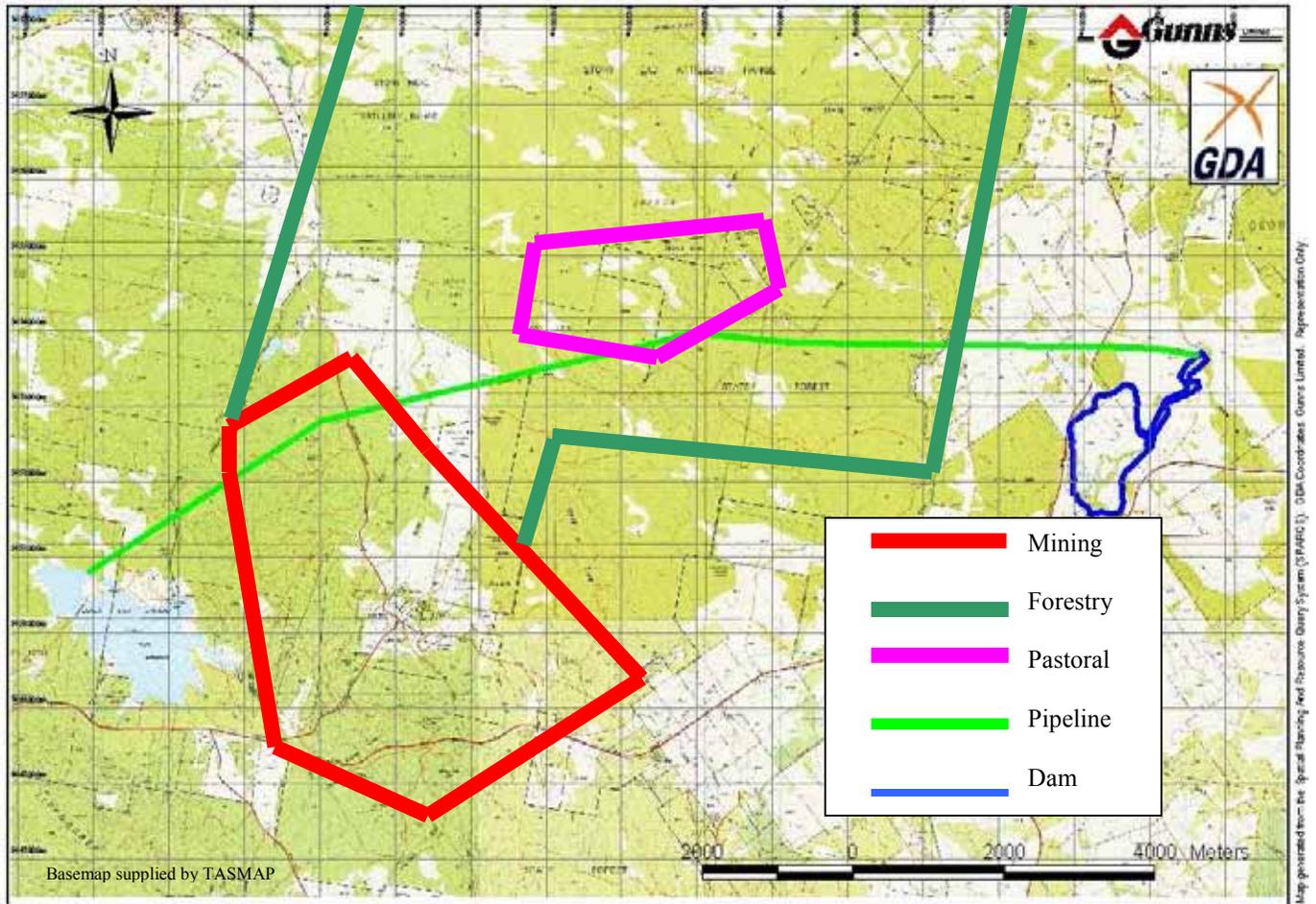
Deep Lead gold mine

Snares road sawmill

- THPI/FT/RNE record
- MIRLOC mine record
- Proposed pipeline/dam
- - - 500 metre corridor

7.0 PREDICTIVE STATEMENT

The map below summarises the approximate location and extent of historic thematic activities in the vicinity of the impact area as a means of anticipating what site types may be encountered during the development. The proposed pipeline corridor crosses areas dedicated at various times to the three primary historic themes for the area (Mining, Forestry, Pastoralism) and all three site types can therefore be expected to occur in its vicinity. However, those related to mining would appear to be the most prevalent, followed by those associated with forestry related activities.



8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO FIELD WORK

This report has been commissioned as a preliminary indicator of the frequency and types of historic sites likely to be encountered within the impact area. However the results are not sufficiently definitive to preclude the need for a ground based survey assessment. It is therefore recommended that the entire pipeline route and dam impoundment area be physically inspected according to best practice survey methodology and the results formalised in a report prior to the occurrence of any construction works.

9.0 REFERENCES

Broadhurst, E. 1935. Lefroy and Back Creek goldfields. Geological Survey bulletin No. 42. Mines Department of Tasmania.

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